

**To:** CN=Roger Gorke/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]  
**Cc:** []  
**From:** CN=Philip Metzger/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US  
**Sent:** Mon 7/30/2012 11:05:28 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Fw: Grumpy old water guy comments on BDCP - Phil Isenberg, Chair Delta Stewardship Council  
[phil.isenberg@deltacouncil.ca.gov](mailto:phil.isenberg@deltacouncil.ca.gov)

No, I knew water quality wasn't directly a part of the BDCP, it's in there only as salinity and what the state has to ensure the users provide for in flow and plumbing to get there; EPA can only view the endpoint to see if it meets WQS, not get involved in how they get there (and most of that has I believe been met by Vernalis flows, or at least was expected to be met).

What I was talking about was the municipals arguing in the late 1990s that the raw water quality (from the standpoint of affordable treatability) of supplies drawn from the Delta via the pumps (not ambient WQ as such) would not allow them affordably to meet what they hypothesized would be the post-2000 round of M/DBP NPDWRs, especially re bromates. They used that to argue they just had to get their raw water supplies from the Sacramento via a canal. I spent my time explaining why they were wrong in their assumptions about what the standards would be and how we would set them, and got them to put the "equivalent level of public health protection" -- calculated as the net of everything they could do to meet standards -- language in the 2000 ROD and other plans, so they argued about that until we put out the M/DBP stage 2 standards which showed I was right in predicting what we would ultimately do.

Philip C. Metzger  
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-----Roger Gorke/DC/USEPA/US wrote: -----

To: Philip Metzger/DC/USEPA/US@EPA  
From: Roger Gorke/DC/USEPA/US  
Date: 07/30/2012 06:39PM  
Subject: Re: Fw: Grumpy old water guy comments on BDCP - Phil Isenberg, Chair Delta Stewardship Council

Are you around tomorrow? We can chat. There is no water quality in the BDCP, it is all ESA...a habitat conservation plan. The mention "Other stressors" and water quality is it. We have our (R9) Action Plan that deals with water quality. I sent that late last week. Take a look at that. The top item is revising the estuary water quality standard which is huge. Mainly flow dependent.

We also have a great ally on the SWRCB in Felicia. Isenberg also gets it but not sure the Delta Stewardship Council has much clout other than the bully pulpit.

Roger Gorke  
Senior Policy Advisor  
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-----Philip Metzger/DC/USEPA/US wrote: -----

To: Roger Gorke/DC/USEPA/US@EPA

From: Philip Metzger/DC/USEPA/US

Date: 07/30/2012 06:20PM

Subject: Re: Fw: Grumpy old water guy comments on BDCP - Phil Isenberg, Chair Delta Stewardship Council

Roger,

I'm not in the office today (working from home because swelling of my foot from a fire ant sting made it too uncomfortable to wear socks and shoes!), but from what I can gather of what displaced it on Bob's calendar, it was the kind of things that come up relatively suddenly and are very time-sensitive. So no negative message, just the usual scheduling vicissitudes.

Thanks for sending the statement -- I agree and it's unusually candid and clearly stated for this issue where impenetrable euphemisms generally dominate.

To the limited extent I understand what's in the BDCP, I take some considerable pride in the apparent absence of drinking water standards as a driver for either the need for or capacity of the canal (which is what advocates tried to use as what to me was a substantively insupportable rationale for the "isolated facility" back in 1998-2000).

As I gather, it's more based on the need to displace the pumps as a destructive force for the hydrology of the Delta -- is that accurate? (I'm sure it's much more complicated than that.) What as far as you know is the relationship between the amount of water to be moved in the canal compared to what has been taken out of the Delta via the pumps? Roughly the same? Significantly more? Are the pumps still going to be used to take the San Joaquin shares out of the Delta? Will there be more than that? The "no more water, no guarantees" really is a sea change though more in rhetoric than the reality of limited supplies. Always boggled my mind a little that Westlands growers started off with a maximum allocation of 1.25 af/ac, and hoping for more would always have required a reversal of the changed western water consensus that the CVPIA's passage represented.

Anyway, babbling on here.

Phil

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-----Roger Gorke/DC/USEPA/US wrote: -----

To: Philip Metzger/DC/USEPA/US@EPA  
From: Roger Gorke/DC/USEPA/US  
Date: 07/30/2012 05:57PM  
Subject: Fw: Grumpy old water guy comments on BDCP - Phil Isenberg, Chair Delta Stewardship Council

Phil,

The meeting tomorrow was cancelled. Was that on our end or theirs?

I think Phil I. makes some good points.

Roger

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-----Forwarded by Roger Gorke/DC/USEPA/US on 07/30/2012 05:56PM -----

To: "'NSutley@ceq.eop.gov'" <NSutley@ceq.eop.gov>, "'mboots@ceq.eop.gov'" <mboots@ceq.eop.gov>, "'feinstein@senate.gov'" <feinstein@senate.gov>, "'Peterson, James (Feinstein)'" <James\_Peterson@feinstein.senate.gov>, "'boxer@senate.gov'" <boxer@senate.gov>, "'lynn\_abramson@boxer.senate.gov'" <lynn\_abramson@boxer.senate.gov>, "'Dan.Bernal@mail.house.gov'" <Dan.Bernal@mail.house.gov>, "'Robert.Edmonson@mail.house.gov'" <Robert.Edmonson@mail.house.gov>, "'Kathy.Arts@mail.house.gov'" <Kathy.Arts@mail.house.gov>, "'Glenn, Kristen'" <Kristen.Glenn@mail.house.gov>, "'George.Miller@mail.house.gov'" <George.Miller@mail.house.gov>, "'Kathy.Hoffman@mail.house.gov'" <Kathy.Hoffman@mail.house.gov>, "'Barb.Johnson@mail.house.gov'" <Barb.Johnson@mail.house.gov>, "'Miller, Ben'" <Ben.Miller@mail.house.gov>, "'Daniel.Weiss@mail.house.gov'" <Daniel.Weiss@mail.house.gov>, "'Murray, Jaclyn'" <Jaclyn.Murray@mail.house.gov>, "'Ian.Lemay@mail.house.gov'" <Ian.Lemay@mail.house.gov>, "'Benjamin.Cardenas@mail.house.gov'" <Benjamin.Cardenas@mail.house.gov>, "'Joe.Sheehy@mail.house.gov'" <Joe.Sheehy@mail.house.gov>, "'Jen.Silva@mail.house.gov'" <Jen.Silva@mail.house.gov>, "'Camille.Calimlim@mail.house.gov'" <Camille.Calimlim@mail.house.gov>, "'Peter.Viola@mail.house.gov'" <Peter.Viola@mail.house.gov>, "'Kyle.Victor@mail.house.gov'" <Kyle.Victor@mail.house.gov>, "'Kristen.Bor@mail.house.gov'" <Kristen.Bor@mail.house.gov>, "'Andrew.Horowitz@mail.house.gov'" <Andrew.Horowitz@mail.house.gov>, "'Scott.Petersen@mail.house.gov'" <Scott.Petersen@mail.house.gov>, Roger Gorke/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, "'Wegner, David'" <David.Wegner@mail.house.gov>  
From: "'Martin, Elaine@DeltaCouncil'" <elaine.martin@deltacouncil.ca.gov>  
Date: 07/30/2012 05:38PM  
Subject: Grumpy old water guy comments on BDCP - Phil Isenberg, Chair Delta Stewardship Council

(See attached file: 2012-07-26 Media Advisory - Isenberg Comments on BDCP Announcement.docx)

My personal reaction to last week's announcement on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) by Governor Jerry Brown and US Interior Secretary Ken Salazar is attached. My bottom line is this:

“As a grumpy old guy involved in California’s water wars, I thought the announcement, the theatrics surrounding it, and the staff work that backed it up was very, very interesting. Serious public policy people should pay attention.”

Please call if you have any questions.

Phil

Phil Isenberg, Chair

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[attachment "2012-07-26 Media Advisory - Isenberg Comments on BDCP Announcement.docx" removed by Philip Metzger/DC/USEPA/US]